

**Town Manager's Office
Town of Mansfield**

Memo

To: Town Council
From: Matt Hart, Town Manager
CC: Town Employees
Date: March 28, 2016
Re: Town Manager's Report

Below please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council, the staff and the community:

Council Business

- *Investigation of Statewide Voting Referendum Policies and Practices under the Americans with Disabilities Act* – Town Attorney Kevin Deneen has been working closely with other town and city attorneys on this issue. Please see [item number 12](#) in your meeting packet for more information regarding the request from the U. S. Department of Justice and the joint responses from Connecticut towns and cities.

Departmental Reports

- *Planning and Development*
 - *Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) & Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) for Obstruction Removal, Windham Airport* - The Connecticut Airport Authority (CAA) is conducting an environmental assessment to identify affected properties and potential environmental issues related to tree removal and installation of pole-mounted red obstruction lights to reduce airspace obstructions in the vicinity of Windham Airport. A Public Informational meeting for this project has been scheduled for March 29, 2016 at the Mansfield Public Library in the Buchanan Auditorium (55 Warrenville Road, Mansfield Center, CT 06250), doors open at 6:30PM with the presentation beginning at 7:00PM. The draft EA/EIE is available at <http://windhamairport.caa-analysis.com/project-documents/>.
- *Public Works*
 - *Traffic Concern at Routes 275/32* - Mr. Jason McGarry, 458 South Eagleville Road, recently spoke to the Council about traffic issues in the vicinity of his property at the intersection of Routes 275 and 32. He has brought concerns to the Traffic Authority dating back to the fall of 2013. Two accidents on his property led him to ask the Town and/or ConnDOT to install a guardrail along his property. The Town denied this request because the intersection is under the jurisdiction of the State. ConnDOT denied this request, stating that the conditions of the intersection do not warrant a guiderail. In November 2014, ConnDOT District 2 reviewed the location to make sure all of the existing markings and signage were up to date. The existing stop bars were repainted. In July 2015, the ConnDOT Division of Traffic Engineering reviewed the subject area and provided the following summary:
 - The latest available three year crash data did not reveal a pattern of run-off the road crashes.
 - The existing signage was found to be adequate.
 - The traffic control signal is operating according to the plan of record.
 - Illumination exists at the intersection. The illumination warrant analysis indicates that the intersection of Route 32 and Route 275 does not meet the criteria for the installation of additional illumination.

At a meeting with Mr. McGarry on March 15, 2016, the Town Engineer and Assistant Town Engineer discussed his concerns. Mr. McGarry would like to continue the stockade fencing that is currently on the east side of his property up to the intersection and then across the front of his property (south

side). Unfortunately a six foot tall fence as proposed would violate zoning requirements for corner visibility, which requires a maximum height of two and one-half feet.

Upcoming Events

- *Storrs Farmers Market* – Storrs Farmers Market is open year-round! The Winter Market will be open twice a month from December through April in the Buchanan Auditorium of the Mansfield Public Library. Storrs Winter Farmers Market will be open from 3:00 to 5:00 PM on March 26, April 9 and April 23. Everything sold at Storrs Winter Farmers Market is grown or produced in Connecticut, so the offerings change with the seasons. Visit storrsfarmersmarket.org for more information and to sign up for weekly emails from the Market (bi-weekly in the winter).

Upcoming Meetings*

- Special Four Corners Meeting, March 29, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Town Council Meeting, March 30, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Inland-Wetland Agency/Planning and Zoning Commission, April 4, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Town Council Meeting, April 5, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Advocates for Children, April 6, 2015, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Parks Advisory Committee, April 6, 2016, 7:00 PM, Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Mansfield Downtown Partnership Board of Directors, April 7, 2016, 4:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Special Town Council Meeting, April 7, 2016, 6:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Finance Committee, April 11, 2016, 5:30 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
- Town Council, April 11, 2016, 7:00 PM, Council Chamber, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building

**Meeting dates/times are subject to change. Please view the [Town Calendar](#) or contact the Town Clerk's Office at 860-429-3302 for a complete and up-to-date listing of committee meetings.*